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Living in danger

37 police and Ansar members at risk in run-down outpost

JAMIL MAHMUD with ANISUR RAHMAN

Constable Sirajul Islam was covering a portion of the ceiling over his bed with a piece of rexine in his shabby room at Lalbagh Police Outpost barracks.

The ramshackle two-storey building has innumerable cracks, and in some places, bricks have come off the walls, creating large holes. So when he was hammering nails into the walls, it seemed the little force would be enough to make them collapse.

When cautioned against the possible danger, Sirajul said plaster was peeling off the walls and his sleep was disrupted when pieces of plaster fell on him.

"What shall we do? We have to live here, right?"

"I pinned this polythene sheet under the ceiling a couple of weeks ago. Returning from duty this morning, I found that it was torn apart as several pieces of plaster pierced it," Sirajul said, pointing at a thin black sheet of blanket-size polythene.

His colleague with whom he shares the room on the first floor of the British era building shifted here after a large crack had appeared in his previous room.

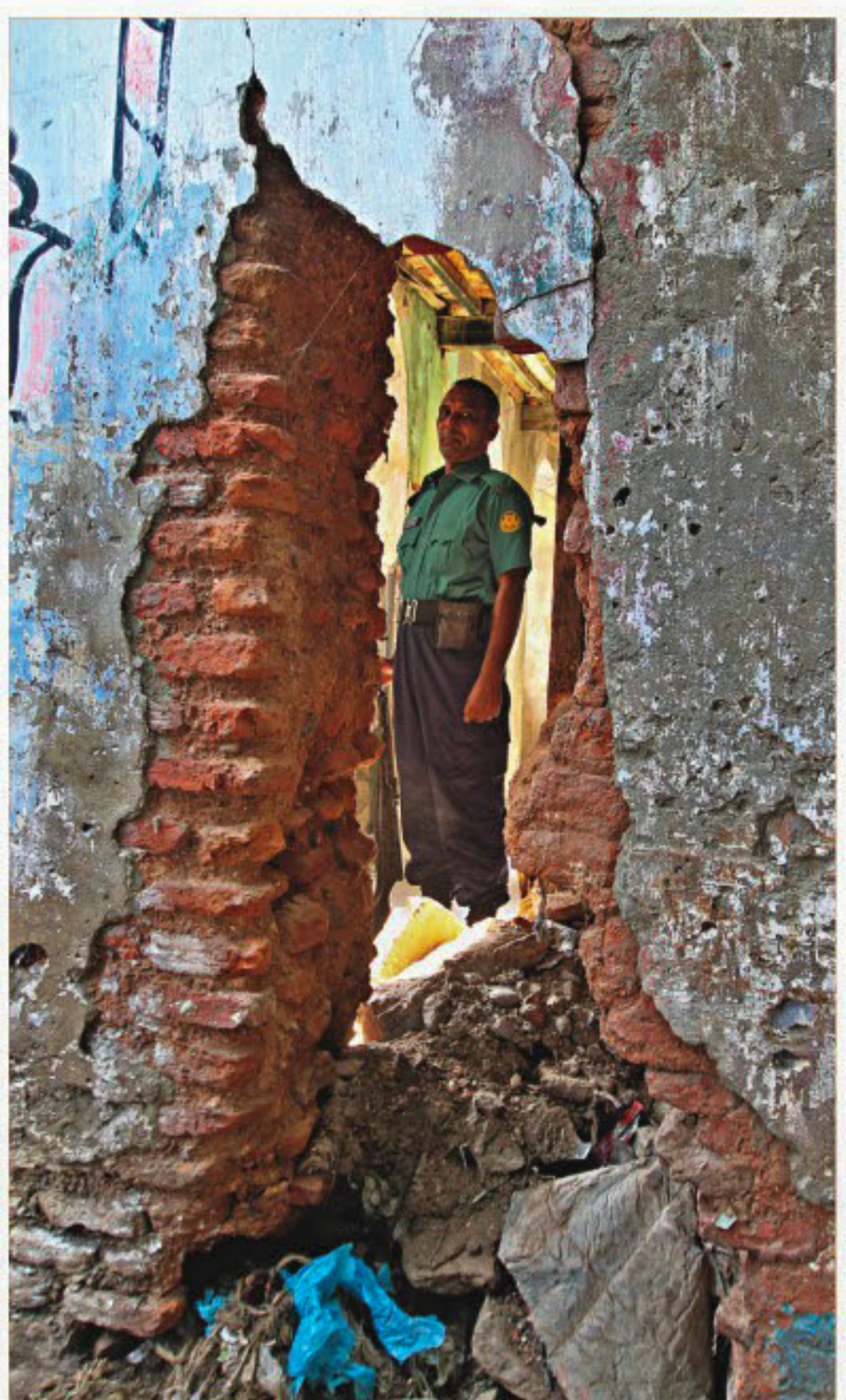
"I never stayed in such a risky ambience in my 26-year career in the police department," continued the constable who moved to the room three months back.

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Some 37 policemen live at two-storey colonial-era run-down building in the capital's Lalbagh. With no repairs and maintenance done in years, the outpost is at the risk of collapse.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN



PRIMARY TEACHER RECRUITMENT PM for separate commission

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday underscored the need for constituting a separate commission to recruit qualified teachers for primary schools.

The prime minister came up with the view in her introductory speech at a programme of the high officials of Primary and Mass Education Ministry at the Secretariat.

Sheikh Hasina said there might be a separate wing under the commission to monitor the recruitment of teachers.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4



Cuba to work with US against Ebola

AP, Havana

Cuba stands ready to cooperate with the United States in the battle against Ebola, former leader Fidel Castro said in an article published Saturday.

Cuba is sending about 460 doctors and nurses to West Africa to help fight Ebola, an effort that was praised on Friday by US Secretary of State John Kerry.

The US is sending hundreds of soldiers to set up clinics and train health care workers and it also has sent officials from the Centres for Disease Control to help in training.

"With pleasure we will cooperate with US personnel in that task," the 88-year-old ex-leader wrote in the Communist Party daily Granma. He said it would not be to seek peace between two countries long at odds, but "for the peace of the world."

Castro did not say what form cooperation might take.

He also noted that Havana plays host on Monday to a meeting of leaders from the ALBA alliance of leftist Latin American nations that is meant to

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Crisis spiralled 'out of control'

Warns scientist who discovered Ebola virus

MAIL ONLINE

The humanitarian crisis wrought by the deadly Ebola virus raging through West Africa will not be over until a vaccine is developed, the scientist who discovered the virus has warned.

Professor Peter Piot, part of the team who identified



Peter Piot

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Woman found dead at home

Cops clueless about motive behind killing

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A middle-aged woman was found dead in her flat at Kadamtoli yesterday evening with marks of stabs in her body.

The deceased, Anwara Begum, 46, was living alone.

Her son Masud Rana, 28, lives in the United Kingdom and her husband Jainal Abedin, who runs a travel agency in the capital, was in Saudi Arabia to perform hajj and was yet to return.

Sources said after Maghrib prayers yesterday, Khokon, security guard of her six-storey building at Janatabagh, went to her flat and rang the bell. Getting no response, he pushed

SEE PAGE 11 COL 2

Court orders probe into Tareq's death

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday directed the Criminal Investigation Department to investigate a case filed for killing Majbah Uddin Tareq in the capital's Mughda in mid-September.

The court of Additional

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4

PRAYER TIMING October 20		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fazr	4-50	5-25
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-00	4-15
Maghrib	5-38	5-41
Esha	7-15	7-45

Source: Islamic Foundation

Mammals can spot storms from 150 miles away

MAIL ONLINE

Elephants are known for their impressive memories, but they are also adept meteorologists, a new study claims.

Researchers say the large animals can detect an approaching rainstorm up to 150 miles away.

And they think elephants' forecasting abilities

SEE PAGE 2 COL 3



DMP to crack down on illegal foreigners

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Law enforcers are going to launch a crack-down on foreigners staying illegally in Bangladesh following reports of involvement of some of them in criminal activities.

"We are making a list of foreigners staying illegally in the country and will raid flats and hotels soon," Monirul Islam, joint commissioner of Detective Branch of Police told reporters at the media centre of Dhaka Metropolitan Police in the capital.

Action would be taken against owners of

hotels and houses if they rent out rooms or flats to any foreigner without valid documents, Monirul said.

The move comes about two weeks after O-level student Zubair Ahmed was murdered, allegedly by an Algerian national.

Abuabaida Kadir, prime accused in the murder of the 16-year-old boy, has been living illegally in the country for more than a decade, say detectives.

Divers of Fire Service and Civil Defence recovered Zubair's body from a pond at

SEE PAGE 11 COL 2

Addict kills parents

Shot by cops, beaten to death by villagers while fleeing

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj

After being shot by police, an alleged drug addict was lynched by locals, barely an hour after he stabbed his parents to death at Niltek village under Singair upazila of Manikganj yesterday morning.

The dead are Saidur Rahman, 30, his father Mohiuddin Pramanik, 60, a rickshaw-puller, and his wife Shufia Khatun, 50.

Rickshaw-puller Saidur got involved in an altercation with his father around 10:30am over distribution of property, said AMM Kamrul Islam, assistant superintendent of police of Manikganj Sadar Circle, quoting locals.

At one point, Saidur attacked Mohiuddin with a sharp kitchen knife and killed him on the spot, Kamrul said, adding the 'drug addict' also hacked Shufia to death as she tried to save her husband.

Later, the alleged killer locked himself inside a room of the house with his one and a half years old nephew Hossain when locals rushed to the spot hearing the hue and cry.

On information, police went to the spot

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

SONADIA DEEP-SEA PORT Netherlands shows interest

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The Netherlands has expressed interest in taking part in the construction of the proposed deep-sea port at Sonadia Island under public-private partnership.

Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte expressed the desire during a bilateral meeting with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at the Italian city of Milan on the sidelines of the 10th Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM).

During a briefing on the outcome of the summit yesterday in Dhaka, Foreign Minister AH Mahmood Ali quoting Hasina told reporters that the government was receiving various proposals

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